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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 2994
RUEHKUK/REO KIRKUK 2021
RUEHIHL/REO HILLAH 0504
RUEHBC/REO BASRAH 2180

S E C R E T STATE 134338

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/21/2032
TAGS: [PINR](#) [IZ](#)
SUBJECT: (C) KUDOS FOR REPORTING ON IRAQ'S LEADERS

REF: A. BAGHDAD 002615: (FROM PRT WASIT)
[1](#)B. BAGHDAD 002689
[1](#)C. BAGHDAD 002691 (FROM PRT NINEWA)
[1](#)D. BASRAH 000068
[1](#)E. BAGHDAD 002730 (FROM PRT NINEWA)
[1](#)F. BAGHDAD 002847 (FROM PRT BAGHDAD)
[1](#)G. BAGHDAD 002867
[1](#)H. BAGHDAD 002928 (FROM RRT ERBIL)
[1](#)I. HILLAH 000121
[1](#)J. BAGHDAD 003026
[1](#)K. BAGHDAD 003060

Classified By: SUZANNE MCCORMICK, DIR., INR/I. REASON: 1.4(C).

(S/NF) INR/B GREATLY APPRECIATES POSTS' REPORTING ON IRAQ'S LEADERS. REFS CONTAINED BIOGRAPHIC NOTES AND PERSONALITY TIDBITS THAT FORM THE CORE OF INR/B'S BIOGRAPHIC REPORTS. FOR EXAMPLE, REF B INCLUDED INFORMATION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MINISTER JAHID'S ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY THAT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NEXT UPDATE OF HIS BIOGRAPHIC REPORT. SIMILARLY, REF J PROVIDED INFORMATION ON FORMER HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTER UJAYLI'S ACADEMIC BACKGROUND AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY. REF D OFFERED INSIGHTS ON WHAT IS WHAT LIKE TO MEET FACE TO FACE WITH BADR LEADER RASHID, MOST NOTABLY HIS "SHREWD AND DEADPAN" DEMEANOR. REF G PROVIDED AN OUTSTANDING OVERVIEW OF PRIME MINISTER MALIKI'S STAFF AND THE CHALLENGES THAT THEY FACE IN TRYING TO DO THEIR JOBS. INR/B ALSO APPRECIATED PRT REPORTING ON PROVINCIAL-LEVEL LEADERS, ESPECIALLY SINCE POLICYMAKERS ARE INCREASINGLY FOCUSED ON WHAT IS HAPPENING OUTSIDE OF BAGHDAD. INR/B ENCOURAGES POSTS TO CONTINUE THEIR OUTSTANDING RECORD OF BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING.
RICE